

large and small, would be induced to expand their recruitment efforts and encourage the states to improve the administration of the programs. Such a change would benefit everyone.

The other provision in the bill would expand the food stamp category by increasing the age limit from 24 to 50 years of age. The current ceiling of 24 limits the availability of individuals in this targeted category. There are many individuals, over the age of 24, who could be gainfully employed if the age limit was expanded. Currently, the programs do an excellent job of helping women on welfare enter into the workforce. Over 80% of the hires in the programs are women. However, men from welfare households face a greater barrier to hire because they are no longer eligible for welfare once they turn 18. However, they can qualify if they are a member of a household receiving food stamps. But again, the age limit on the food stamp category is 24. We believe increasing that age limit to 50 will provide employers an incentive to hire such individuals and provide them with a sense of personal responsibility and self-esteem in assuming their responsibility as parents and members of society.

We use our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this important legislation to extend and improve the two programs.

#### IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH—RECOGNIZING NEW MEX- ICO WOMEN

##### HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2001*

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I asked New Mexicans to send me nominations of women in New Mexico who have given special service to our community, but may have never received recognition for their good deeds.

I received twenty-eight worthy nominations describing sacrifices and contributions these women have made for our community. The people who nominated the women described the dedication they have witnessed: volunteer hours for veteran services, Sunday School Teachers, service on non-profit boards, homeless programs, fund raising for scholarships for at risk youth, healthcare providers going above the call of duty, child advocates, volunteers at churches and synagogues, successful business women, wives, mothers and friends.

Allow me to share examples of the nominations.

Lydia Ashanin—A community volunteer since the age of 10. She has actively mentored many young women through Big Brothers/Big Sisters and other youth programs. Lydia is a committed volunteer for Leadership New Mexico, fostering future leaders in our state. Her volunteer efforts have touched economic development, women's programs and DWI activism.

JoAnn Carnahan—A hospice volunteer nominated by Elizabeth Carlin, a hospice patient. JoAnn takes Elizabeth for chemotherapy and stays with her for the 3–4 hours it takes

for the treatments. JoAnn volunteers for a disabled man, doing his grocery shopping and laundry each week. At Christmas she helps with the gift bags for hospice patients.

Connie Martinez—A community liaison in the San Jose neighborhood of Albuquerque, she works hard on issues important to her neighbors and friends. Although she has experienced many personal losses in her life, she remains committed to making a positive difference. Connie is an advocate on environmental issues such as Superfund and Brownfields sites in the community, and social and economic concerns that affect the residents of San Jose. Connie is also an active volunteer at her parish.

Carolyn Monroe—A successful business woman who shares her skills on several boards concerned with the economic well-being and growth in our community. She understands the need and benefit of helping individuals and organizations succeed in the business community. Additionally she gives her time and financial support to many non-profit organizations.

Gloria Septien—One of only four women in the United States who owns a radio station, and one of only two Hispanic women who own a radio station. She has performed innumerable acts of kindness including food and toy drives for needy families and giving generously to charitable organizations, including the United Way.

Tamara Ward—A juvenile justice social worker who "walks the talk." Tamara has developed programs to help youth begin their rehabilitation and make a successful transition once they are out of the institution. She helps teens in the institution tell their stories through "Tales from the Inside", sharing why no one should follow in their footsteps. Tamara recruits positive role models to mentor the youth, providing a foundation to make positive changes in their lives.

These five excerpts from the nominations serve as examples of the women making history today and impacting the future in new Mexico. Please join me in honoring all of the worthy nominations: Julia Y. Seligman, Thema Honey, Aileen O'Bryan, Margarte Davidson (Posthumously), Maureen Sanders, Judie Framan, Gwen Poe, Fran Bradshaw, Cathy Davis, Anne Townsend, Penny Howard, Carolyn Chan, Melisse Barlow, Betty King, Marie Torrens, Paulina Slopek, Cathleen Tomlinson, Jan Johnson, Clorinda Romero, Virginia Eubanks, Vickie Terry, Marily Schaer and Sue Stearns.

#### WILDKITS SWIM AWAY WITH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

##### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 27, 2001*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Evanston Township High School swim team for winning this year's Illinois State championship. After more than 40 long years, the State swimming championship title is back in Evanston. And after the many hours of hard work in the pool and countless

laps, this team's dedication to winning was financially rewarded.

Led by Coach of the Year Kevin Auger, this year's outstanding and superbly talented Evanston Township High School swim team dominated the competition, broke state records, and swam away with the top prize. That was a proud moment for ETHS swimmers, coaches, faculty, and especially the parents of those remarkable student athletes. It was a very proud moment for all the residents of the city of Evanston and all Wildkit fans and alumni.

I urge all members to read the following article from the Evanston Review on ETHS' great achievement, and to take a minute and read the names of the championship swim team members listed below.

ETHS Team Members: Glen Anderson, Jamaal Applewhite, Peter Bloom, Nate Crocker, Brian Doyle, Justin Froelich, Taylor Hales, Alex Johnson, Alex Maass, Sean McCaffrey, Stuart Olsen, Terry Silkaitis, Stephen Skalinder, Will Vogel, Blake Wallace, Seth Weidman, and Brian Weiland.

ETHS Coaches: Kevin Auger, Jim Blickenstaff, Chuck Fargo, Joey Hailpern, and Aaron Melnick.

[From the Evanston Review, Mar. 1, 2001]

KITS SNAG FIRST STATE SWIM TITLE IN OVER  
40 YEARS

(By Dennis Mahoney)

Evanston freshman Alex Johnson brought his family's favorite lawn ornament—a two-foot high plastic penguin—to the Illinois High School Association state swimming and diving finals Saturday at New Trier High School.

"It's always brought my family good luck, so I thought I'd bring it along," Johnson said.

But good luck isn't necessary at the state swim finals. The cream always rises to the top.

Led by the terrific trio of Terry Silkaitis, Sean McCaffrey and Blake Wallace, Evanston's swim team ascended to the top of the heap as the Wildkits captured their first state crown since 1960 Saturday.

Coach Kevin Auger's team left no doubt about the outcome with a sizzling performance during Friday's preliminary competition, then breezed to a team total of 139 points and easily outdistanced runner-up St. Charles East (110).

Silkaitis defended his individual championship in the 200-yard freestyle event, and also swam with the victorious 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams as part of a dominating performance by the Wildkits.

"Winning that last relay (in a school record 3:06.93) was just the icing on the cake for us," said Auger after his celebratory dip in the New Trier pool. "This just feels awesome. These guys worked so hard and it's just great to see this senior class accomplish this."

"For them to handle the pressure the way they did was just tremendous. Our big three swam virtually perfect Friday, and I told the guys we had to win yesterday to win it today."

"Even after the sectional I didn't think this was possible. It feels awesome, but it hasn't really sunk in yet," said Silkaitis. "It definitely was a nerve-wracking weekend. But I knew what I had to do—and I did it."

The splendid senior almost pulled off a pair of individuals wins. He put together impressive back-to-back swims in the 200—with a